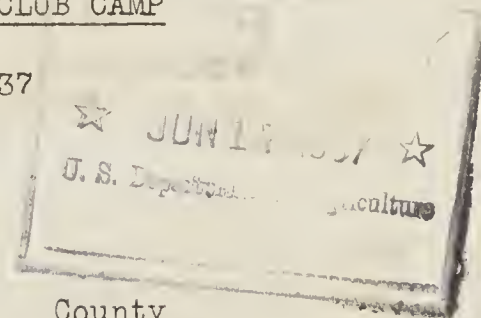


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DELEGATES TO THE ELEVENTH NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CAMP

Washington, D. C., June 17 - 23, 1937



WEST VIRGINIA

<u>Delegate</u>	<u>County</u>
Juliet Marie Duke	Berkeley
Ruth McDowell	Greenbrier
Allen Sanders	Hampshire
Woodrow Wilson	Wirt

Miss Duke writes:

"In the fall of 1928 I was just 10 years old when I started on the 4-H path.

"I worked hard on my first year's sewing, knowing that it had to be completed on a certain date. I finished my articles and they were exhibited at the county fair. I got my first thrill of pride at seeing my work displayed along with that of many others. My second thrill came when I saw a blue ribbon on my sewing. I was still more pleased to find that that scrap of blue entitled me to a trip to Younger Girls' State Camp at Jackson's Mill.

"The next 3 years went smoothly. Of course, I had trouble with seams, tucks, and plaits, but such troubles were easily remedied. I exhibited sewing projects each succeeding year, including 1932. Each of these projects was awarded first prize at the tricounty jubilees, and each year I took advantage of the trip to Jackson's Mill.

"My comparatively smooth sailing was definitely interrupted in 1932. My mother became ill and was taken to the hospital. At the same time my sister became ill and I found myself keeping two houses, caring for an invalid grandmother and going to school. It was a pretty hard pull trying to fill mother's place. After a long time she came home again but the work and responsibility were still mine for months. That year I couldn't carry a 4-H project. Only a fellow 4-H'er knows how it hurt to be "out of things" that year.

"In 1933 and 1934, despite efforts made, the local club could not be reorganized. Determined not to lose another year, I took first-year canning and carried on my project as a lone member. Then I followed my canning exhibit to the regional fair, representative of eight counties, I saw a blue ribbon dangling from one of my jars. This meant State camp again.

"At a tricounty get-together I gave a demonstration on the use of a pressure cooker and placed first on the demonstration. That same day I was on the winning judging team in canning.

"The following year the club managed to be coaxed into existence again, and we found ourselves runners-up in the county-wide information tournament.

"In 1934 and 1935 I was busy remodeling my room. In 1935 and 1936 I continued the second-year project. If I could say that I had more real fun doing one project than another, then I had it during the work on these projects. I papered my room myself and as proof for my workmanship, that paper still hangs tightly to the wall. In these 2 years, I redeco-rated everything - walls, woodwork, floor, furniture, and closets. I made furniture, curtains, bedclothes, pillow slips, book ends, shoe bag, and laundry bag. I was awarded first prize in the county, tricounty, and regional fairs both years on my room."

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Mr. Wilson writes:

"Ten years ago I joined a 4-H club, knowing practically nothing of the activities that were carried on therein. My interest grew as competition in project work progressed, and this interest proved very valuable in teaching me how to spend my time profitably.

"My projects have included poultry raising, handicraft, nature, corn, and, this year, meal planning. In doing these various projects, I particularly learned much about the out-of-doors and the value of careful planning and keeping of records."

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Miss McDowell writes:

"It was in the fall of 1928 when the county agent of Greenbrier County came to our school at Organ Cave for the purpose of organizing a 4-H club. Several members appeared interested and eight went so far as to sign the pledge and become active members, I being one of the group. Though our number was small and interest was at a somewhat low ebb, we carried our work through the best we knew how. Officers were elected, and regular monthly meetings were held. I fulfilled the duties of secretary for the club. For my first project, I chose sewing. By persistent effort, I finished my work and exhibited it at the Greenbrier Valley Fair, where I carried away two blue ribbons, winning first place at both the county and regional fairs. This gave me a scholarship of \$12 to be used in attending camp at Jackson's Mill the following summer. During this year, I had my first taste of camp life when I attended the county camp, held near Rupert, W. Va.

"From a small group of eight members, our club has evolved into the present organization of 21 active members. During that time, I fulfilled

the duties of president for 2 years, of secretary for 2 years, of news reporter for 2 years, and game leader for 1 year. Besides, I was a member on various committees, including constitution, program, recreation, and refreshment.

"My project record during the years in which I have been a 4-H club member is not unlike that of any other club girl who has been intensely interested and has put forth her best efforts. In all, I have carried four projects in sewing, three in baking, and one in canning.

"My 4 years of sewing stand before me as years of profitable work that I have enjoyed. Besides learning the technique of making various seams and stitches and knowing the satisfaction of having a finished garment, I received additional awards at the county and regional fairs in the fall when I exhibited my work. A total of five blue and two red ribbons and three scholarships to Jackson's Mill were given me, making a sum total of \$36 in prize money.

"The 3 years of baking which followed my sewing projects brought me two blue, two red, and two yellow ribbons and two scholarships to Jackson's Mill, making a total of \$14.50 in all.

"Last year, I carried and completed my first project in canning. At each, the county, regional, and State fairs, I won a blue ribbon. This year, I am taking the second-year canning project which I hope to exhibit at the fair this fall.

"My projects, besides being valuable work, have really been enjoyable. The awards which I have been fortunate enough to win have given me real pleasure as well as inspiration and greater confidence in my own ability to do a piece of worth-while work.

"Not all my time as a 4-H'er has been spent in doing project work, for I have spent at least 2 weeks each summer in attending 4-H camps. I have been to six county and six State camps, each of which has given me new experiences, new friends, new ideas, and new aspirations.

"In the spring of 1932, I was a delegate from my club to a regional 4-H convention held at Alderson, W. Va. There, I was a member of a team giving a demonstration on "Attractive sandwiches for the school lunch." My team mate and I gave the same demonstration the following summer at both volunteers' and older girls' camp at Jackson's Mill.

"For 6 years I have served as a member of the club's home-economics judging team at the Greenbrier Valley Fair. In 1932, 1935, and 1936, I was a member of the county team which competed in the regional contest. During the summer of 1934, I was chosen as one of the five 4-H members to represent West Virginia at Camp Miniwanca, the American Youth Foundation Camp in Michigan. At a meeting of the West Virginia Bankers' Association at White Sulphur Springs in 1935, I was one of the group which represented the 4-H club, giving a talk on Camp Life, one of the phases of club work."

Mr. Sanders writes:

"I have been in 4-H club work for 7 years and have completed nine projects.

"The first project that I took was home beautification. In this project I not only drew maps and planned ways of beautifying my home but also planted shrubs, flowers, vines, and other plants. I made several flower beds and cleaned up all unsightly places I found around the yard. I made a bird house and a rose trellis which I put up in the yard the first year, and the second year I made a garden seat. These greatly improved the appearance of my home. By doing these things I have learned how to grow flowers and shrubs, and a lot about types of bird houses, rose trellises, and garden seats because I had to study different types to pick a suitable one to build.

"I completed 4 years in the nature project and in all four of them I have been required to make a collection of some kind for exhibition. For example, in the insect project, I had to mount at least 25 different kinds in a case. This was very interesting work and I enjoyed doing it. It is even a better way to learn than going to school because it is almost the same as being in a laboratory. This is certainly the best way to learn to know nature.

"From my garden which I have had and cultivated for three years, the family gets plenty of fresh, green vegetables. They were certain to be fresh, being picked and used at once, and they were so much cheaper than if bought from a grocer. On my garden for 3 years I have made a good profit.

"Every year I learn more about gardening by doing my project. I have gradually expanded, increasing the size of my crops as much as I can and try to have a better garden each year. It has meant much to have fresh green vegetables from the garden every year.

"I have eight county placings (six of them firsts) out of nine exhibits and four regional placings. For project achievement I have won two scholarships to Jackson's Mill."

Extension Service,
U. S. Department of Agriculture.